

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
Mon. Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>
Mon. Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Recreation Advisory Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>
Tues. Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parks Commission	6:00 PM	Hubbard Park, Old Shelter	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda</a>
Tues. Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Energy Advisory Committee Meeting	7:00 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>
Tues. Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Historic Preservation Commission Meeting	7:00 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>
Wed. Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>
Wed. Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Conservation Commission	6:30 PM	TBD	TBD
Thurs. Sept 17 <sup>th</sup>	Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access</a>

The City Montpelier acknowledges the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> Attacks. We'd like to to recognize and mourn the loss of life of thousands of civilians, 343 Firefighters, and 72 Police officers.

In a relatively peaceful city like Montpelier it's easy to overlook the risks and dangers our own first responders encounter on a regular basis.



### **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CITY OF MONTPELIER RESPONSE UPDATE**

The start of September marks almost 6 months since Vermont since declared its State of Emergency, and our understanding of the Coronavirus has constantly been evolving. While the State of Vermont has done so much so well to suppress the virus in this State, continued safety measures need to be followed, and residents need to remain vigilant. As a community, we need to stay committed to wearing masks, washing our hands, physically distancing, and taking other measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

**As a reminder to residents:** [The Governor has made it mandatory to wear a mask starting August 1<sup>st</sup>](#). The State requires that masks are worn in public spaces (indoors & outdoors) when social distancing is not possible. This order applies to everyone over the age of 2, with a few health exceptions.

#### **State Updates:**

- **September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020:** The Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing is looking for businesses to help quantify the impact of COVID-19 across the tourism industry through a [survey](#). Responses are requested by Friday, September 11, 2020.
- **September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** The Governor held a press conference, and discussed the following information:
  - Kinney Drugs has partnered with the State and 11 of their locations around the State will be made into COVID-19 Testing sites. [Details can be found at the Health Department's website.](#)
  - The [#BuyLocalVermont](#) program has launched. Starting on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, this program offers residents \$30 through the State of Vermont to help local businesses recover from the devastating effects of COVID-19. Participants will be matched with a participating local VT Business to spend their \$30.
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** [The Governor has extended the state of emergency through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.](#)

#### **General City Updates:**

- City Hall Reopening:
  - The City Hall building is open 8:00am-4:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Appointments are highly suggested, masks and physical distancing are required.
  - The porta-johns behind City Hall and the Senior Center will remain until we are able to open City Hall full-time.
- Parking:
  - As reviewed in the parking plan approved by City Council, **the City will be turning on meters in parking lots starting September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

### **City Council's Mask Ordinance:**

- City Council adopted an [Emergency Order](#) requiring the wearing of masks inside public Montpelier business establishments that went into effect Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup>, and is currently in place through October 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - This ordinance is supported and superseded by the Governor's State-wide Mask Mandate.
- The City has been given a supply of reusable cloth masks by the State, and they are on the table in the hallway of City Hall- free to the community during the hours City Hall is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays (8am-4:30pm).

### **Regional Aid Groups Update:**

- The City is maintaining a list of situational updates and regional resources for those who may need them on the COVID-19 Response page on the website here: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1155/Coronavirus-Response>
- The Community Call Center is still functioning:
  - Community Call Center hours will be 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, open weekdays. You may call or text (802) 636-2025.
- The Capital Area Neighborhoods (CAN) contact information:
  - [MontpelierCAN@gmail.com](mailto:MontpelierCAN@gmail.com) and (802) 828-7375
- Open Meal Sites and their locations are being tracked and posted on the Montpelier Mutual Aid website: [www.MontpelierMutualAid.org](http://www.MontpelierMutualAid.org)
- Another Way Community Meal Information:

Another Way (125 Barre St, Montpelier, VT 05602) has put out the following information regarding meals available for those who need them:

  - Friday Night Dinner Take Out 5pm -6pm
  - Wednesday Breakfast Take Out 9am - 10am
  - *The building is closed to public, pick up only from marked porch site. Please wear mask when approaching take out table.*



## Responsive and Responsible Government

### **LEADERSHIP TEAM RETREAT**

On Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup>, the leadership team will be holding a retreat at the senior center. Primary goals of the retreat are:

1. Building personal connection & getting to know each other:
2. Checking in on core values and how to operationalize them.
3. Leadership team communication, collaboration, and meeting structure.
4. Implementing the Strategic Plan and establishing joint accountability.
5. Interdepartmental goals and collaboration.
6. Understanding potential long term changes to Montpelier as a result of COVID

As noted earlier, between July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2020, seven of the fourteen people on the leadership team have changed. One position has changed twice. The COVID situation has added complications to the group dynamics.

A reminder of the seven leadership changes in the last year:

Asst. City Manager	Sue Allen	Cameron Niedermayer
Exec. Assistant	Jamie Carroll/Jhasmine Lamb	Mary Smith
Public Works Director	Tom McArdle	Donna Barlow Casety
Police Chief	Tony Facos	Brian Peete
Finance Director	Todd Provencher	Kelly Murphy
Parks Director	Geoff Beyer	Alec Ellsworth
Justice Center Director	Yvonne Byrd	Carol Plante

Many of our practices, values, and internal goals were developed with the prior team. We hope to have our new team build its own norms and group expectations together. The remaining team members are Fire Chief Bob Gowans, Planning Director Mike Miller, Rec Director Arne McMullen, Senior Center Director Janna Clar, Cemetery Director Patrick Healy, HR Manager Tanya Chambers and City Manager Bill Fraser. City Clerk John Odum also participates when his schedule permits.

### **WINTER PARKING CHANGES**

Following the Council's preliminary approval of a new winter parking system, a project team has been established to finalize ordinance and operational details as well as manage public education and publicity efforts.

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

The Planning Department is happy to announce that Kevin Casey has returned from furlough. Kevin is the City's Community Development Specialist and in that capacity he works on grant administration and program management for the City's housing initiatives and other community related projects. Some specific projects he will be returning to are the accessory dwelling unit program with Vermont State Housing Authority, the elevator upgrade at Kellogg Hubbard Library, and the supportive housing and services grant with Washington County Mental Health and Another Way. His return brings the Planning Department back to full operation.

### **SCHOOLS REOPENING AND TRAFFIC**

School reopened this week. People can expect significant traffic congestion around Union Elementary School and Main Street Middle School during both the morning arrival and afternoon dismissal times. Please plan accordingly. High impacts can be expected for School Street, Loomis Street and Main Street (near the Middle School) as well as nearby neighborhood streets.

We have had police officers at both UES and MSMS to assist with traffic management and safety.

### **TEMPORARY PARKLET APPROVALS**

City Council has enacted a temporary parklet ordinance for the purpose of providing additional business expansion opportunities during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Temporary Parklet Application](#)
  - (All applications will be submitted to the City Manager's Office at [cniedermayer@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:cniedermayer@montpelier-vt.org))

- [Temporary Parklet Ordinance](#)

This temporary ordinance is in place through October 25, 2020.

Approved Temporary Parklets:

- The North Branch Café (currently opting not to use it)
- Three Penny Taproom
- Julio's Cantina



## Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

### **POLICE RELATED UPDATES**

**Follow Up to August 26** discussion is tentatively scheduled for the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. This will include information relating to the 11 requests made as well as a recommendation concerning the Police Strategic Plan Advisory Committee.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES**

#### **Montpelier Senior Activity Center Updates:**

##### **Fall Classes Still Accepting Registration**

MSAC is still accepting registration for its 29 Fall classes (25 online and 4 in-person) to begin the week of Sept. 21. Many of these classes are open to all ages, and very few have any sort of size limit. Some of the classes being offered include: Drawing, Rug Hooking, Chinese Calligraphy, Poetry, Opera Appreciation, Yoga for Men, Very Gentle Yoga (with a seated option) Tai Chi for Fall Prevention and many more!

For a complete list of classes, times, prices, and instructions on how to register, please visit our [program guide](#) and [registration form](#) online.

##### **Advisory Council Meeting**

Monday, September 21 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm | via Zoom

The agenda will include Wellness survey, committee assignments, and status of class registrations. All members are welcome. To get the zoom link, email <mailto:msac@montpelier-vt.org>. The Agenda and August 24 minutes are both posted on our website's Advisory Council page.

##### **FEAST Senior Meals To Go! Served outside Tuesdays and Fridays, 12:00-12:30**

Pick-up in our beautifully landscaped courtyard in front of 58 Barre Street. Requires mask-wearing and six feet distancing in line. **Meals for age 60+**, by suggested donation of \$5 – 10 with completed Annual Nutritional Survey; **Under 60**, fee of \$7-10. Reservations appreciated, and/or request vegetarian by calling **262-6288** by the previous day. All meals include milk. Next week's menu below. Full August menu available on website.

- **Tuesday 9/15:** Chicken Enchiladas, Rice, Corn & Dessert
- **Friday, 9/18:** Beef Stroganoff, Poppy Seed Coleslaw, White Rice Pilaf & Dessert

### **FEAST Together Distantly w/MSAC Staff on Zoom**

Friday, Sept. 25 | 12:30 - 1:15 pm | via Zoom

Join MSAC Staff (Director, Janna Clar and FEAST Manager, Sarah Lipton) and other MSAC members for a digital lunch. You'll be able to ask questions, get answers and spend some time with friends, old and new! Email Harry at [msac@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:msac@montpelier-vt.org) or call 223-2518, preferably a day or more in advance to receive Zoom link. Help from Chet is available if you're new to Zoom; just ask!

### **FEAST Together *Inside* MSAC**

Tuesday, September 29 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm MSAC Community Room | RSVP required!

Chef Mike and MSAC staff are feeling confident that we can safely start inviting people indoors for our much missed congregate meals! Join us for some brisket, potatoes, broccoli, carrots and dessert as well as some (distant) in-person dining. Please be prepared to undergo a health screening, sit 6 feet apart, wear a mask except when eating or drinking, and be served at your table. Reservations required for this event by calling 262- 6288 or emailing <mailto:feast@montpelier-vt.org>.

### **New FEAST Farm Volunteer Hours**

5 Home Farm Way | 2 hour shifts

Mondays 1-3 pm

Fridays 9 - 11 am & 1 - 3 pm

The Community Services Department is farming a small plot at 5 Home Farm Way in Montpelier and we are in need of volunteer help with weeding, planting, watering, harvesting! Would you like to help provide FEAST with fresh, local food? We are looking for volunteers to sign up to help for 2-hour shifts on Mondays and Fridays. No special skills or abilities are necessary! Please bring drinking water, mask and work gloves. Sign-up by using the link on <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1128/ThisWeek-at-MSAC> or find out more by emailing Jacqueline Huettenmoser at [jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org).

### **ORCA MEDIA**

ORCA Media supports the City of Montpelier by live streaming videos to local TV and on YouTube. Recently, Comcast changed the government channel to 1085.

- Click here to access City Council Meetings: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council>
- Click here for Live Stream Events: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>



## **Sustainable Infrastructure**

### **DPW STREET & WATER/SEWER DIVISIONS UPDATES:**

The City of Montpelier's Street Division & Water/Sewer Division had a short week due to observing Labor Day.

Our Street Division this week collaborated with our Water/Sewer and Mechanic Division assisting the W/S with the Heating pipe project between City Hall and the Montpelier Fire House. Our Mechanic Division received assistance from Street Division in the shop, working on equipment. Our Vactor Truck representative provided the DPW Staff with training throughout the week. Street paintings/markings and arrows were completed throughout downtown area, sidewalk repair on River Street is completed, staff also performed storm receiver repairs, cut brush along sidewalks

around schools and the bike path. The Finch Road stormwater project was also completed this week, which included erosion restoration along with site grading.

Next week our Street Division crews will complete the following task list:

- Walker Terrace Road repair (upper section)
- Ditch Mill Road and Corry Road
- Pave in ruts on Pioneer Street bridge deck
- Painting arrows downtown
- Pave in upper end of Walker Terrace

Our Water/Sewer Division had one crew most of the week working on the Heat piping project between City Hall & Montpelier Fire House. Our second crew spent the week working on water meter repairs, Dig Safe markings, pump station maintenance and daily checks, addressed any resident concerns.

Next week our Water/Sewer Division will have a crew back over at City Hall/Fire House project, another crew will be beginning winter hydrant maintenance along with routine weekly task. All of our Divisions will continue safe practices associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Clarendon Ave:**

This week the contractor finished with the excavation on Bailey Ave. This included all of the new water services and the Cut and Cap on the abandoned water main. Next week work will begin on roadway reconstruction on Clarendon Ave., Jordan St. and Redstone.

**WRRF:**

This week a large crane was mobilized to remove the steel covers from the digester tanks. Next week work will be focused on rehabilitation of the largest digester in preparation of installing the new membrane cover.

**Wayfinding:**

The wayfinding contractor is excavating and installing bases for the future wayfinding signs. This work is happening at various locations around the City and will continue through next week.

**Taylor Street:**

The process of excavating and rebuilding the subbase for the roadway has started. This work will begin at State Street and progress south and continue into next week.

Thank you,  
City Manager



William Fraser

## Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

9/23	Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee Creation (Tentative) CVPSA appointments and updates Budget Process Update (Tentative) Winter Parking- Alternate Side of the Street Proposal Ordinance Change 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading COVID-19 Update (with further In-Person Meeting Recommendation Updates) Police Issues Followup Council meeting dates review – October, November, December		
10/14	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Strategic Plan status 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Budget status Winter Parking- Alternate Side of the Street Proposal Ordinance Change 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Montpelier Alive- Downtown Improvement District Budget MDC Update COVID-19 Update Public Restroom Discussion (cont.) TKS/Mowatt properties	10/28	Legislative Priorities 2021 Infrastructure Update COVID-19 Update PFAS Update (tentative)
11/11	Veteran's Day ( <i>may need to change date</i> ) Childcare Option Study COVID-19 Update	11/25	Thanksgiving Eve ( <i>may need to change date</i> ) Preliminary Budget Discussion COVID-19 Update
12/9	Implement Housing Initiatives Strat Plan Discussion Budget COVID-19 Update	12/23	( <i>near Christmas, may need to change date</i> ) Budget COVID-19 Update
1/13/21	Budget Public Hearing Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter budget status	1/28/21 Thursday	Budget Public Hearing Warning Public Hearing Approve Warning Review/Approve Petitions
2/10/21	City Manager Review	2/24/21	TBD
3/2/21	Annual Meeting Election	3/10/21	Organizational Meeting

### **REPORTS DUE:**

Universal Recycling Law – Periodic updates

MDC/MA Partnerships – Periodic updates

Protect, Maintain and Improve Built Infrastructure – Update in October

Supporting the Community in Rebound from COVID 19 – Regular updates